

How Can I Get Help?

Noticing and acknowledging the warning signs and symptoms of domestic violence and abuse is the first step to ending it. No one should have to live in fear of the person they love. If you recognize yourself or someone you know with any of the warning signs and descriptions of abuse contained within this brochure, don't hesitate to reach out. There is help available.

Resources and Contact Information

Department of Family & Children Services

The Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) is responsible for welfare and employment support, protecting children, foster care and other services to strengthen families.

Fulton County – Intake 404.699.4399

DeKalb County – Intake 404.370.5066

Atlanta Police Department
404.546.3434

DeKalb Police Department
404.294.2000

Grady Rape Crisis Hotline
404.616.4861

Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault
404.815.5261

Partnership Against Domestic Violence – Supports women and their children in their efforts to live violence free. 24 hour Crisis Line 404.873.1766, Emergency Shelter and Community Based Services.

Juvenile Justice Fund—The CEASE Program of the Juvenile Justice fund works with girls who have been commercially sexually exploited. The CEASE program advocate should be called immediately if a CSEC victim comes to the fire station. 678.608.7159.

Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) Georgia

404.870.6565 or **Statewide Toll-free Helpline**,
1.800.CHILDREN (1.800.244.5373)

Georgia Crisis & Access Line (800) 715.4225

Georgia Center for Child Advocacy – The mission of the Georgia Center for Child Advocacy is to champion the needs of sexually and severely physically abused children through prevention, intervention, therapy, and collaboration. All services, including forensic services for victims are provided free of charge (678.904.2880)

For additional information contact:

Deputy Chief Christopher Wessels
Field Operations
Phone: 404.546.7766
Email: chwessels@atlantaga.gov

Atlanta Fire Rescue Department



For additional information about the services provided by the Atlanta Fire Rescue Department please visit www.atlantaga.gov



ATLANTA FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Kelvin J. Cochran
Public Safety Headquarters
226 Peachtree Street SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Main : 404.546.7000 • Fax : 404.546.8761

What Is SafeSPOTS?

SafeSPOTS (Safe Place off the Streets) is a program designed to provide immediate assistance to individuals and families facing child and/or domestic violence at any time the need arise. The firefighters of Atlanta Fire Rescue Department (AFRD), within the confines of Fire Stations, will utilize its facilities as a “*SafeSPOT*” for:

- Abandoned Infants
- Abused Children
- Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
- Victims of Sexual Assault
- Victims of Domestic Violence

SafeSPOTS is a temporary haven whereas:

Abandoned infants can be left until they are received by medical facilities and/or assistance is provided by the Department of Family and Children Services (DAFACS).

Victims of abuse can come to receive basic emergency medical treatment for their injuries.

Transportation can be established in confidentiality away from the aggressor.

Confidential notification of law enforcement officials is made for domestic abuse incidents, if requested by persons 18 years of age or older. Mandatory reporting if under the age of 18.

What Is Domestic Violence?

Domestic violence can be defined as a pattern of behavior in any relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner.

Abuse is physical, sexual, emotional, economic or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person. This includes any behaviors that frighten, intimidate, terrorize, manipulate, hurt, humiliate, blame, injure or wound someone.

Domestic violence can happen to anyone of any race, age, sexual orientation, religion, or gender. It can happen to couples who are married, living together or who are dating. Domestic violence affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels.

You may be in an emotionally abusive relationship if your partner:

- Calls you names, insults you or continually criticizes you.
- Does not trust you and acts jealous or possessive.
- Tries to isolate you from family or friends.
- Monitors where you go, who you call and who you spend time with.
- Does not want you to work.
- Controls finances or refuses to share money.
- Punishes you by withholding affection.
- Expects you to ask permission.
- Threatens to hurt you, the children, your family or your pets.
- Humiliates you in any way.

You may be in a physically abusive relationship if your partner:

- Damaged property when angry (thrown objects, punched walls, kicked doors, etc.). Pushed, slapped, bitten, kicked or choked you.
- Abandoned you in a dangerous or unfamiliar place.
- Scared you by driving recklessly.
- Used a weapon to threaten or hurt you.
- Forced you to leave your home.
- Trapped you in your home or kept you from leaving.
- Prevented you from calling police or seeking medical attention.
- Hurt your children.
- Used physical force in sexual situations.

You may be in a sexually abusive relationship if your partner:

- Views women as objects and believes in rigid gender roles.
- Accuses you of cheating or is often jealous of your outside relationships.
- Wants you to dress in a sexual way.
- Insults you in sexual ways or calls you sexual names.
- Has ever forced or manipulated you into to having sex or performing sexual acts.
- Held you down during sex.
- Demanded sex when you were sick, tired or after beating you.
- Hurt you with weapons or objects during sex.
- Involved other people in sexual activities with you.
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